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WINSLOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

SURVEYOR

for the year

1968.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Cclr. H. North
Cclr. E.J. Venn
Cclr. C.J. Dickins
Cclr. R.P. Bates
Cclr. W.J. Hanson
Cclr. Mrs. J.E. Micklem
Cclr. A.G. Curtis
Cclr. C.F.H. Grainge
Cclr. C.D. Kitchener
Cclr. J. Stanton
Cclr. R. Davies (Chairman of Council)
Cclr. R.J. Radwell
Cclr. J. Morton
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Cclr. Mrs. I. Marks
Cclr. A.J. Ulling
Cclr. N.G. Bevan
Cclr. J.T.R. Phillips
Cclr. A.H. Wigley

REPRESENTING

Drayton Parslow
Dunton
East Claydon
Granborough
Great Horwood
Hoggeston
Hogshaw
Little Horwood
Mursley
Nash
Newton Longville
Newton Longville
North Marston
Shenley Brook End
Stewkley
Stewkley
Swanbourne
Tattenhoe
Whaddon
Winslow
Winslow
Winslow
Winslow

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS FOR 1968

Medical Officer of Health
Surveyor & Public Health Inspector
Deputy Surveyor & Public Health

Public Health Clerks

Inspector T.J. Ayres, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Mrs. F.V. Anderson
Mrs. D. Nicholls.

Dr. P. Lavis, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
N.J. Shipp, M.A.P.H.I.

COMMITTEES

Public Health and Planning Committee

Chairman Cclr. C.D. Kitchener
Vice Chairman Cclr. J. Morton.

Housing Committee

Chairman Cclr. H. North.
Vice Chairman Cclr. Miss E.M. Johnson.

Finance, Rating and General Purposes Committee

Chairman Cclr. J. Morton.
Vice Chairman Cclr. Miss E.M. Johnson.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report for 1968.

Vital Statistics

The difference between the birth and death rates is now very wide. Of 175 deaths that occurred during the year, 87 of these were of people over the age of 75 years. While this is encouraging and suggests a healthy population, the continued elevated birth rate must make people consider the wider implications of continually expanding populations. The inevitable imbalance if this trend continues between world needs and its resources might seem far removed from local thoughts and actions, but the individual must sooner or later face the problem. Limitation of families is an individual's concern and the responsibility will have to be accepted.

Infectious Diseases

Measles vaccination was started during the year though it was not possible to introduce it early enough to prevent the expected epidemic completely. From January 1st appointments for immunisation procedures have been processed by computer. It is expected that a more complete population coverage will be achieved by this method.

On the 1st October the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 came into operation. This revised the list of notifiable infectious diseases and cleared up much of the law relating to the Department's duties in relation to these and food poisoning. Some tightening of enquiries into immigrants' health has now been made possible but the situation is far from satisfactory in this respect.

Environmental Health

At the time of writing a new environment hazard is threatening the district viz. aircraft noise from the possible airport site at Cublington. It will not be necessary for me to draw attention to this as adequate publicity will be given but it is my duty to point out that many people living in the rural district will be affected and each person should consider seriously whether this is an element of life he or she is prepared to accept. This new hazard needs to be viewed against a background of increasing noise from other sources, in particular, motor vehicles and the fact that it will be permanent and all-pervading. The quality of life will be affected, and people's opinion on what constitutes a "civilized" life will need to be re-appraised. Medical evidence on the affect on health is being formulated for submission to the public enquiry but I must emphasize that too much reliance should not be placed on noise level contours that will be published prior to that enquiry.

In the meantime a number of villages still await approval by the Ministry for an adequate sewage system.

Health Education

One of the monthly themes emphasized this year was Poisoning Hazards in the Home. With the kind co-operation of chemists and local doctors the public were invited to hand in their old and surplus drugs. A surprising amount of tablets were brought in, many of them lethal if misused. I hope that parents were also reminded by these means to safeguard their children from these dangers.

The time is now overdue for a general improvement in the standards of food hygiene in the district. The possibility of widespread illness due to food poisoning is greater now than in the past because of the different marketing methods and the new types of food products. Certain basic principals have always applied and are still of utmost importance. However, there are many new management techniques that have become necessary requiring study by those involved in food handling. While there have been innumerable new regulations introduced over recent years good standards can only be achieved by enlightened good will. High standards should mean good business.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

Harris

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Births</u>		<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Live Births:	(Legitimate)		
	Males	84	82
	Females	79	86
	(Illegitimate)		
	Males	6	3
	Females	1	4
	Total	170	175
Still Births		2	2
Birth Rate (corrected) Winslow		21.1	20.9
Birth Rate Bucks		18.1	17.9
England and Wales		17.2	16.9

Deaths

Deaths:	Males	61	55
	Females	72	83
	Total	133	138
Death rate (corrected) Winslow		9.7	10.6
Death rate Bucks		8.9	9.1
England and Wales		11.2	11.9

Miscellaneous

Area (in acres)	36,436	
Population	9200	9540
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December 1968		
according to rate book		3,230
Rateable Value	£276,114	284,591
Sum represented by penny rate	£1,104	£1,190

<u>Principal Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasm	15	8	23
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	17	22
Heart disease	15	15	30
Other Circulatory disease	0	9	9
Pneumonia	5	11	16
Bronchitis	6	4	10
Accidents	3	3	6
Other	6	16	22
	55	83	138

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Ambulance Service Administered by Bucks County Council from Aylesbury with a sub-station at Bletchley serving the north of the area.

Hospital Under the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. Patients are generally treated at Aylesbury. Outpatient facilities are also available in certain specialities at Bletchley, Buckingham and Wolverton.

Laboratory (Public Health) - Oxford.

District Nursing/Midwifery Area Superintendent - Mrs. O.M. Riley at Area Health Office, Bletchley. Four nurses are stationed within the district.

Social Workers (Medical, Welfare, Blind, Mental Health) Area Officer - Mr. P.K. Smith at Area Health Office.

Home Help Service Area Organiser - Mrs. E.N. Franklin (At Area Office). Assistant Organiser (Winslow District) Mrs. V.A. Haughey.

Industrial Unit Whaddon Way, Bletchley.

Child Welfare Clinics Clinics are held at regular intervals at Winslow, Stewkley and Newton Longville in hired halls. The mobile clinic visits Great Horwood, Little Horwood, Mursley, Drayton Parslow, Swanbourne, Nash and Whaddon.

Dental Clinic Treatment is offered to children and expectant mothers at Bletchley, Buckingham and Aylesbury. In addition the dentist visits schools regularly.

Health Education Area Organiser - Miss M.B. Hayward at Area Health Office.

School Health Service Administered from Area Health Office, Bletchley. This includes arrangements for examination of pupils in accordance with the Education Act, 1944, ascertainment of handicap and arranging appropriate treatment. The Child Guidance Clinic is situated at Whalley Drive, Bletchley, B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is carried out in the schools as well as booster doses of polio, diphtheria and tetanus antigens.

Children Department Area Child Care Officer: Miss J.M. Walker. (at Area Office).

Health Visiting Superintendent - Mrs. D.L. Marrett at Area Health Office. Four Health Visitors (some of whom combine their duties with general nursing) are stationed in the district.

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A - SEWERAGE

Existing Sewers and Disposal Works

With the exception of the heavily overloaded works at Newton Longville all other works continued to operate satisfactorily during the year. Further trouble was experienced with sewer surcharging at Great Horwood during heavy rainfall and this seriously affected the new housing developments in Spring Lane. The position was thoroughly investigated and as the result of this two measures were proposed for dealing with the problem. These were the cleansing of all sewers and the second the construction of a storm overflow sewer direct to the brook. The first measure was carried out and the second was deferred to see if the cleansing operations would have the desired effect.

Schemes

The schemes for Newton Longville, Nash Whaddon and East Claydon were approved by the Ministry but owing to financial restrictions the implementation of the East Claydon Scheme has had to be deferred. However, the go-ahead was given for Newton Longville, Nash and Whaddon.

B - PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Throughout the year the weekly collection service was maintained except for a period of several weeks during the latter end of the year. At that time collections carried out by one of the two teams were seriously hampered by staff shortages. This was due to the fact that, during this period, about 40% of the workmen were on sick leave at the same time. With a small total staff it is impossible to maintain the full service when this sort of thing happens. At the end of the year negotiations were finally concluded for the aquisition of the new refuse tip at Stewkley.

Streets Cleansing - Winslow

The only highways cleansed by the Council are as follows and these together with the Market Square are done at the latter end of each week. A litter collection is also carried out in the High Street on Mondays.

- (a) High Street
- (b) Station Road
- (c) Buckingham Road
- (d) Sheep Street
- (e) Horn Street

C - BUILDING CONTROL

Building control throughout the district is exercised by the Council. During the year 196 applications were received. A large proportion of time continues to be spent on visits and inspections to ensure compliance with the Building Regulations.

D - PLANNING CONTROL

Under the Delegation Agreement made between the Council and the County Council certain functions of the Town and Country Planning Acts are exercised by the District Council.

During the year 233 planning applications were deposited with the Council.

The number of applications received during the ten years prior to 1968 were as follows:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Applications</u>
1967	247
1966	226
1965	236
1964	213
1963	179
1962	193
1961	198
1960	125
1959	121
1958	97

During the year the Winslow Expansion Plan was finally approved by the County Council.

E - SWIMMING POOLS

There is one swimming pool in the district (at Stewkley) and this is privately owned. It is, however, open to the public during the season and regular sampling of the water takes place both by the owner and the Council to ensure that a satisfactory standard is maintained.

F - RODENT CONTROL

The control of rodents throughout the district is undertaken by one operative who is employed jointly by Wing and Winslow Rural District Councils. During the year the following inspections and treatments were carried out:-

	<u>Surveys</u>	<u>Treatments</u>
Dwellinghouses	1499 (58)	181
Agricultural Properties	180 (13)	38
Business Properties	67 (3)	9

The figures in brackets are the numbers of properties surveyed as the result of notification of infestation. The Council's refuse tip at Little Horwood and all sewage disposal works have been regularly inspected and treated when necessary.

During the year the usual testing and treating of public sewers took place and only very minor infestations had to be dealt with.

At the beginning of the year the Foot and Mouth epidemic continued to greatly curtail the inspection of farms. Visits were only made at the request of farmers.

G - OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The number of registered premises at the end of 1968 was 32. All of these received a general inspection during the year.

The occupiers were generally complying with the provisions of the Act, although a few minor infringements were found.

The total number of employees employed in registered premises was 119.

H - HOUSING

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (DISCRETIONARY AND STANDARD)

During the year the Council agreed to make Standard Grants to a maximum of £5,013.

	1967	.....	£3,917 - 10 - 0		
	1966	.....	£2,744 - 17 - 6		
	1965	.....	£2,319 - 16 - 6		
	1964	.....	£5,160 - 10 - 0		
	1963	.....	£4,430 - 0 - 0		
				<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
(a)	Number of applications received	.....		26	27
(b)	Number of applications approved	.....		26	27
(c)	Number of applications withdrawn	.....		0	0
(d)	Number of applications refused	.....		0	0

Of the above applications eight were higher limit grants.

COUNCIL HOUSES

The number of houses owned by the Council at the 1st April 1968 was:-

Pre-War	.....	226.
Post-War	.....	573.
Total	.....	799.

UNFIT HOUSES

- (a) Number of houses demolished during the year 3.
(b) Number of houses closed during the year 4.

I - WATER SUPPLIES

Water supply throughout the district is the responsibility of the Bucks Water Board and I am indebted to them for the following information.

1. Supply throughout the district has been at all times satisfactory as regards both quantity and quality.
2. Regular samples of water were taken during the year and the results of these indicated that the water supplied conformed to the high standard of that required by any public supply authority.
3. There is no tendency to plumbo-solvency.

All parishes in the district are supplied with water from public mains and apart from a few isolated farms and other properties the majority of the population are served.

J - FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occs. Pros.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	NIL	NIL
Factories not included in the above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	16	6	NIL	NIL
	19	8	NIL	NIL

K - FOOD

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Premises throughout the district falling within the scope of the Regulations are summarised as follows:-

Category	No.	Fitted to comply with Reg. 16. (Wash Basins)	To which Reg.19 applies. (Sinks)	Fitted to comply with Reg.19. (Sinks)
Gen.Stores	32	31	32	29
Butchers	6	4	6	6
Greengrocers	3	3	3	3
Confectioners	9	9	-	6
Fishmongers	2	2	2	2
Public Houses	26	26	26	26
Cafes	3	3	3	3
Bakeries	2	2	2	2
Bread/Cakes	1	1	1	0
Works Canteens	1	1	1	1
School Kitchens.	12	12	12	12
	97	94	88	90

Slaughterhouses

There are no slaughterhouses within the district.